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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/049,168	02/07/2002	Niklas Danielsson	6772-01WOUS	7942

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EXAMINER

KLIMACH, PAULA W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2135

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/049,168

Applicant(s)

DANIELSSON, NIKLAS

Examiner

Paula W. Klimach

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because descriptive labels other than numerical are needed for figures 1-3. See 37 CFR 1.84(o). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: "Mechanical key for access control of Master/Slave memory."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant admitted art in view of Kubie (3,508,205).

In reference to claim 1, regarding the computer device containing at least two memory units, the applicant admitted prior art discloses a system with two memory units (page 2 lines 1-10).

However the applicant admitted prior art does not disclose the memory units comprising at least two contact surfaces, the manually operable switching device, and the switching device being connected to the contact surfaces.

Kubie discloses a system for locking information stored in a computer using mechanically operated locks. The system comprising memory units, wherein each of these memory units comprises at least two contact surfaces (Fig. 3 and Fig. 4) and is of the kind the function of which in the computer device at least partly is determined by whether an electric connection is made between two contact surfaces of the memory unit (Fig. 3 and Fig. 4); at least one manually operable switching device which can be set to close and open at least one connection (part 28 in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4); the switching device being connected to the two contact surfaces of at least a first of the memory units (Fig. 1); the switch is connected to the I/O of the memory unit and therefore the memory unit because the I/O provides point of access to the memory unit; such that the electric connection between the two contact surfaces of the memory unit may be opened and closed by the switching device (parts 30, 32, 34 Fig. 3); wherein said function of the memory unit is determined by whether the switching device is set for closure or opening of the electric connection between the two contact surfaces of the memory unit (column 3 lines 20-30); wherein said switching device comprises a locking device which limits the possibility for a user of the computer device to set the switching device for closure or opening (column 2 lines 30-70); and wherein said two contact surfaces of each of the memory units

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consist of two jumper-pins which are provided on said memory units and which are of the kind arranged to be connectable by means of a clamp (Fig 3 and 4).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use a mechanical switch to control access to memory using a mechanical key as in Kubie in the system as disclosed by the applicant admitted prior art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because the system prevents the unauthorized dissemination of information while solving the problem of the current system wherein the identification code number can be given out unintentionally by word of mouth to unauthorized persons who then can extract the confidential information from the system (column 1 lines 20-72).

In reference to claim 2, wherein said locking device is arranged to be operated by means of a key.

The applicant admitted prior art does not disclose a locking device is arranged to be operated by means of a key.

Kubie discloses a key used as the means to operate the locking device (Figs. 3 and 4 part 28).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use a mechanical switch to control access to memory using a mechanical key as in Kubie in the system as disclosed by the applicant admitted prior art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because the system prevents the unauthorized dissemination of information while solving the problem of the current system wherein the identification code number can be given out unintentionally by word of mouth to unauthorized

persons who then can extract the confidential information from the system (column 1 lines 20-72).

In reference to claim 3, wherein said switching device is also connected to the two contact surfaces of a second of the at least two memory units, such that the electric connection between the two contact surfaces of the second memory unit may be opened and closed with the switching device, wherein the switching device is arranged to comprise at least a first and a second setting position, wherein at the first setting position the electric connection between said two contact surfaces of the first memory unit is closed, and wherein at the second setting position the electric connection between said two contact surfaces of the second memory unit is closed.

The applicant admitted prior art does not disclose a switching device for the memory units. Although Kubie discloses the contact for one memory device and the ability to increase the number of switching devices and therefore the number of contacts (column 3 lines 30-45), Kubie does not disclose the switching device with a contact for a second memory device.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide a second contact as in the Kubie system for a second memory as disclosed in the applicant admitted prior art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because when a device is created once its reproduction multiple times requires a repeating the design that has already been created for one memory device.

In reference to claim 4 wherein said locking device is arranged such that said first and second setting position comprise two different locking positions which may be set by means of said key.

The applicant admitted prior art does not disclose the locking device is arranged such that said first and second setting position comprise two different locking positions which may be set by means of said key.

However Kubie discloses a locking device that is arranged such that said first and second setting position comprise two different locking positions, which may be set by means of said key (Fig. 3 and 4).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use a mechanical switch to control access to memory using a mechanical key as in Kubie in the system as disclosed by the applicant admitted prior art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because the system prevents the unauthorized dissemination of information while solving the problem of the current system wherein the identification code number can be given out unintentionally by word of mouth to unauthorized persons who then can extract the confidential information from the system (column 1 lines 20-72).

In reference to claim 5, wherein the switching device is arranged to comprise at least also a further setting position, wherein in this further setting position the electric connection between the two respective contact surfaces with which the switching device is connected, is open at all memory units to which the switching device is connected.

The applicant admitted prior art does not disclose the switching device is arranged to comprise at least also a further setting position, wherein in this further setting position the electric connection between the two respective contact surfaces with which the switching device is connected, is open at all memory units to which the switching device is connected.

However Kubie discloses a switching device that is arranged to comprise at least also a further setting position, wherein in this further setting position the electric connection between the two respective contact surfaces with which the switching device is connected, is open at all memory units to which the switching device is connected.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use a mechanical switch to control access to memory using a mechanical key as in Kubie in the system as disclosed by the applicant admitted prior art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because the system prevents the unauthorized dissemination of information while solving the problem of the current system wherein the identification code number can be given out unintentionally by word of mouth to unauthorized persons who then can extract the confidential information from the system (column 1 lines 20-72).

In reference to claim 6, wherein said at least two memory units are hard disc units (page 2 lines 1-10).

In reference to claim 7 comprising a housing, wherein said switching device is arranged at the housing and arranged to be able to be set from the outside of the housing.

The applicant admitted prior art does not disclose a housing, wherein said switching device is arranged at the housing and arranged to be able to be set from the outside of the housing.

However Kubie discloses a housing, wherein said switching device is arranged at the housing and arranged to be able to be set from the outside of the housing (Fig. 1).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use a mechanical switch to control access to memory using a mechanical key as in Kubie in the system as disclosed by the applicant admitted prior art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because the system prevents the unauthorized dissemination of information while solving the problem of the current system wherein the identification code number can be given out unintentionally by word of mouth to unauthorized persons who then can extract the confidential information from the system (column 1 lines 20-72).

In reference to claim 8 wherein the computer device is arranged such that setting of the switching device in a first position means that the first of said memory units is connected for use in the computer device, while the second of said at least two memory units is not connected for use.

The applicant admitted prior art does not disclose the computer device is arranged such that setting of the switching device in a first position means that the first of said memory units is connected for use in the computer device, while the second of said at least two memory units is not connected for use.

However Kubie discloses the computer device is arranged such that setting of the switching device in a first position means that the first of said memory units is connected for use in the computer device, while the second of said at least two memory units is not connected for use (Fig 3 and 4 column 3 lines 20-51).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use a mechanical switch to control access to memory using a mechanical key as

in Kubie in the system as disclosed by the applicant admitted prior art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because the system prevents the unauthorized dissemination of information while solving the problem of the current system wherein the identification code number can be given out unintentionally by word of mouth to unauthorized persons who then can extract the confidential information from the system (column 1 lines 20-72).

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the applicant admitted prior art and Kubie as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kawase et al (5,522,060).

The combination of the applicant admitted prior art and Kubie do not disclose a system wherein the first memory unit functions as master and a second of the at least two memory units or memory units functions as slave. Kubie discloses a system wherein the computer device is arranged such that setting of the switching device in a first position means that the memory units are connected for use in the computer device (Fig. 1).

Kawase discloses the first memory unit functions as master and a second of the at least two memory units or memory units functions as slave (column 2 lines 32-50).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to have a system that includes a master memory device and a slave memory device as in Kawase in the system as disclosed by the applicant admitted prior art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because the slave memory device can be used to

contain a snap shot in an efficient parallel fashion to save the data set in case the system is compromised (column 1 lines 50-63).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paula W. Klimach whose telephone number is (571) 272-3854. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon to Thr 9:30 a.m to 5:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PWK
Friday, September 09, 2005


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